

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

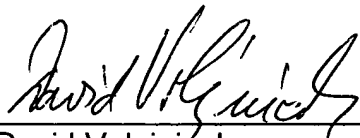
In the Examiner's Answer to applicants' Appeal Brief, the Examiner allowed claims 1-22 and 47-56 and continued to reject claims 23-46. In the last paragraph of page 20 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner identified the matter of the allowed claims that is not taught by the prior art. In response, applicants have amended rejected independent claims 23 and 40 to include these recitations. (Claim 25 has become superfluous and has been canceled.) The rest of the rejected claims depend from claims 23 and 40. Applicants therefore assert that the rejected claims 23, 24 and 26-46 as amended are allowable for the same reasons as claims 1-22 and 47-56 are allowable.

The Examiner also identified typographical errors in claims 40 and 47. Applicants have amended these claims to correct these errors.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants suggest that all of the pending claims are now allowable, and the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore request that the application be reconsidered and thereafter be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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